

Amendments

Please cancel claims 20-35 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please amend claims 36-38 to read as follows:

36. (Amended) A method for treating a condition, comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a composition consisting of (a) pharmaceutically acceptable carrier and (b) active agent consisting of (i) hyperforin or (ii) hyperforin and hypericin, wherein said condition is selected from the group consisting of: cancer; an inflammatory skin condition; a precancerous condition; a geriatric skin condition; and a microbial skin infection.

37. (Amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein the condition is eczema.

38. (Amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein said condition is selected from the group consisting of: exsiccation eczemas; hyperkeratotic hand and foot eczemas; contact eczemas; atopic dermatitis; neurodermatitis; lichen simplex; prurigo simplex; lymphomas; leukemia; melanoma; an epithelial pre-cancerous condition[s]; tumor metastases; and epithelial tumor.

Please add the following new claims:

40. (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein said composition is in the form of a topical ointment and said effective amount consists of at least 15 μ g hyperforin per ml.

41. (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein said composition is in the form of a topical ointment and said effective amount is 0.02-20 mg hyperforin per ml.

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42. (New) The method according to claim 41 wherein said effective amount is 1-20 mg hyperforin per ml.

43. (New) The method according to claim 42, wherein said effective amount is 10 mg hyperforin per ml.

44. (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein said effective amount is at least 15 μ g hypericin per ml.

45. (New) The method according to claim 36, wherein said effective amount of hypericin is 20-150 μ g hypericin per ml.

46. (New) A method of treating cancer comprising administering to a subject in need thereof an effective amount of a composition comprising hyperforin and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

47. (New) The method according to claim 46, wherein said effective amount comprises at least 50 μ g/ml of hyperforin in a form suitable for injection into a tumor.

48. (New) The method according to claim 46, wherein said effective amount is at least 100 μ g hyperforin per μ l in a form suitable for epicutaneous application.

49. (New) The method according to claim 46, wherein said effective amount is at least 50 μ g hyperforin per ml in plasma when administered systemically.

50. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein said cancer is a melanoma.

51. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein said cancer is a lymphoma.

52. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein said cancer is a skin cancer.

53. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein said cancer is mammary carcinoma.

54. (New) The method of claim 46, wherein said cancer is leukemia carcinoma.

55. (New) A method of inhibiting keratinocyte cell proliferation comprising administering to a subject a cell proliferation inhibiting amount of hyperforin, wherein said amount is at least 100 µg/ml.

56. (New) The method of one of claims 46 or 55, wherein said hyperforin is at least 90% pure.

Remarks

Applicants thank Examiner Davis and Supervisory Examiner Lankford for the interview on January 22, 2002.

Claims 20-39 are pending. Claims 20 to 35 are withdrawn from consideration and are herewith cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 40-56 are added. Thus, with entry of this amendment, claims 36 to 56 will be active in this case. Support for new claim 40 can be found at page 7, lines 4-8; support for new claim 41 can be found at page 7, lines 9-11; support for new claim 42 can be found at page 7, lines 9-13; support for new claim 43 can be found at page 7, lines 9-13; support for new claim 44 can be found at page 7, lines 15-20; support for new claim 45 can be found at page 7, lines 15-20; support for new claim 47 can be found at page 6, lines 33-34; support for new claim 48 can be found at page 6, lines 35-36; support for new claim 49 can be found at page 6, line 37 to page 7, line 1; support for new claim 50 can be found in Examples 1, 2, 3 and related Figures; support for new claim 51 can be found in Examples 1, 2, 3 and related Figures; support for new claim 52 can be found in Examples 1, 2, 3 and related Figures; support for new claim 53 can be found in Example 6; support for new claim 54 can be found in Examples 1, 2, 3 and related Figures; support for new